

CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-TCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in Bad Freienwalde, Bernau and Eberswalde

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 1 March 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 1000 on 4 February 1955, the following column passed through Dannenberg from the direction of Freienwalde and proceeded toward Gersdorf (west of Bad Freienwalde):

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38 T-34/85s

1 JS

several AT guns and about

50 trucks

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2. After 1700 on 4 February 1955, several mixed columns drove through the town of Eberswalde toward the kasernes from the direction of Finow. The following details were obtained:

About 200 trucks

12 radio trucks

5 AT guns

3 mortars, possibly of 160 mm

16 BA-64s

8 trucks with AA machine guns

8 trucks with field kitchens

5 tank trucks.

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During the night of 4 February until 1700 on 5 February, individual vehicles and small columns drove in the same direction.

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3. On 4 February 1955, units presumably returned to Eberswalde from winter exercises. Units seen returning from the direction of the autobahn to Finowfurth included 9 three-axle amphibious cars, 3 amphibious cars with track-laying chassis, 12 x 122 mm field howitzers and approximately 100 motor vehicles. The noise of vehicles going in the same direction was heard until 2200.

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4. The following large weapons were seen in the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau on 7 February:

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1 motorboat and 25 to 30 pontoons on trucks in the northwestern corner of the installation which housed the engineer troops;
about 15 armored personnel carriers, 5 x 57-mm AT guns and 8 motor vehicles in the southwestern corner:

6 JS-1 or JS-2 tanks [] in the northern section of the kaserne;

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An JSU-249 was seen outside the installation on Wandlitzer Chaussee.³

5. On 7 February, army clothing depot I (4244) in Bernau was occupied to capacity. About 15 YA-12 prime movers were seen in the southeastern section of the depot. The same number of prime movers was presumably parked on the southwestern side. In addition, 100 to 120 motor vehicles, 22 x 152-mm M-43 field howitzers, 3 x 100-mm AT guns, 2 x 85-mm AT guns and about 20 workshop trucks.⁴
6. On 5 February, 5 x 85-mm and 1 x 37-mm AA guns and, presumably, a fire control director, were seen in the former SS pigeon station (4243) in Bernau.⁵

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1. [] Comment. [] the units observed were the 20th Tank Bn and other elements of the 16th Gds Mecz Regt. Troops of the post have repeatedly been identified at exercises in the area west of Bad Freienwalde. []

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2. [] Comment. The exercises by troops of Eberswalde post from 1 to 4 February is known from previous information. [] The first observation of 12 x 122-mm field howitzers in Eberswalde is interesting. It is therefore probable that the 240th Gds Mort Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div has also been reequipped and has now a 122-mm field howitzer battalion in addition to the mortars.

3. [] Comment. The engineer equipment seen in the northwestern section of the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau confirms the 22d Gds Engr Bn of the 6th Gds Mecz Div there. The tanks observed presumably belong to the 34th Tank Tng Bn of the division stationed there. The armored personnel carriers and 57 mm AT guns are believed to belong to the 35th Gds Mecz Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div.

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4. [] Comment. Weapons and special motor vehicles observed in army clothing depot I (4244) in Bernau again confirm the 71st Light Arty Brig of the Fourth Mecz Army. The arrival of 152-mm field howitzers is known.

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5. [] Comment. The weapons seen in the SS pigeon station (4243) in Bernau confirm the AAA unit. The 120th (?) AAA Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div is stationed there.

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